DIANA DeGETTE
1ST DISTRICT, COLORADO

1530 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4431
FAX 202-225-5657

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1600 DOWNING STREET, SUITE 550
DENVER, CO 80218
303-844-4988
FAX 303-844-4996

E-mail: degette@mail.house.gov

Docket # 02-148

ORIGINAL

**Congress of the United States**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, DC 20515—0601**

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS
AND THE INTERNET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, TRADE,
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

May 7, 2002

**EX PARTE OR LATE FILED**

**RECEIVED**

Mr. Michael Powell
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

AUG 2 0 2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to express my support for Qwest's application to enter the long distance market in Colorado.

I believe that the best way to ensure that my constituents, and all Colorado residents, benefit from the promises of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 is to provide a highly competitive marketplace. In fact, increased competition will not only benefit consumers, but will also generate additional investment in the state of Colorado, thus strengthening our economy and creating new jobs.

I am aware that the Colorado Public Utilities Commission has worked diligently over the last few years to ensure that Qwest has complied with all the requirements of the `96 Act. I expect that they have complied and will soon be able to enter the long distance market as an effective competitor.

Colorado has long been recognized as a leader in the telecommunications field, and I think that this trend will continue well into the future. I encourage the Federal Communications Commission to promptly review Qwest's "271" request and act as expeditiously as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If I can answer any questions, please call me at 202-225-4431.

Sincerely,

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

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